

Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association February 2019 Session Minutes

February 7, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Conrad Starr at 7:00pm.

Board members present included Mr. Starr, Joshua Kirchmer, and David Zadick. Neighbors also present include: Nancilee Brady, Giorgio Bosso, and Kathy Flynn.

Approval of Minutes

1. January 2019 -

JK moves to approve minutes from January 2019 with submitted revisions.

DZ seconds.

Passes unanimously.

Public Comments

GB noted that traffic on Citrus and Mansfield has gotten worse, in his view. Being that the neighborhood is a popular cut through, GB hopes that the speed-hump application submitted will go through.

Daniel Brook and Mary Monahan arrived at the meeting at 7:08pm.

Jasmine Plummer, Kathy Flynn and Steven Senigram arrived at 7:10pm

CD4 has obtained speed feedback lawn signs, and CS encouraged neighbors to contact Rob Fisher at CD4.

Reports

Treasury Report - DB compiled receipts and submitted them to CS. CS relinquished \$76.50 to DB for \$236 --- for a total of \$312.50 in the treasury at this time. DB will update the ledger to reflect this.

Streets and Sidewalks - DB nothing to report. JK noticed new asphalt patches at 9th and Sycamore.

Emma Howard arrived at the meeting at 7:20p.

SSNA LUC - CS explained the zoning in SySq and how in the past developers have come to the SSNA to ask for Neighborhood input on various projects. Senate Bill 818 allowed developments to build bigger if they allow for affordable housing. After this bill was passed, developers were not required to interface with the Neighborhood and thus were able to build 'by-right'. The TOC plan similarly allows developers near transit hubs to densify even more without approval or interfacing with the neighborhood.

EH: The purple line is a metro project, when they proposed the line they offered a grant to do the TNP, and were approved. With the TNP's approval, it caused portions of SySq (along La Brea and Wilshire) to be affected ahead of the previously approved Wilshire Plan Update. The City Planning Commission was able to write and pass the Transit Oriented Communities, as a blanket plan, with the idea that neighborhoods would fill in specifics based on their communities.

CS: it's about getting information out and encouraging neighbors to act.

If there were rent stabilized units in old buildings, they must be replaced with new stabilized rent units (at current market rate). A new version of SB 827 is SB 50, which has an incentive that prevents rental properties used in the last 7 years, however, rental units in SySq may not be affected because they fall under TOC.

With the re-coding of multifamily lots, there is an opportunity to adjust provisions to better suit the neighborhood.

930 S mansfield was torn down wrongfully because it was included in Survey LA as a pre-1940 building, and might hold some historical significance, and the demolition should have been placed on hold while everything was being figured out, yet the developer was able to tear it down because of the antiquated way in which the city files this paperwork.

Opportunities to bring up affordability ratios, change setbacks etc in the Community Plan.

Power issues and traffic are potential issues that will rise from development. Folks in other neighborhoods have compiled maps of concurrent projects in the neighborhood.

Discretionary projects are required to ask the city for changes in their projects (changing zoning, height, etc), and notices from the planning department have this information.

Compiling a map of number of units in each building in the neighborhood (S. Senigram volunteered to compile this information). Los Feliz Improvement association is an example of a neighborhood association that has hired a lawyer and won cases against developers.

Planning committees are interested in a story, and right now the story is affordable housing, and right now, CD4 is trying to get the most out of the Purple Line Plan. CD4 CD5 and CD10 are concerned about development. Using a story to change the narrative; engage with the Purple Line plan.

CS moves:

Motion: Resolved, The Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association opposes the Purple Line Transit Neighborhood Plan prior to the Wilshire Plan Update.

JK seconds.

Unanimous Approval.

SSNA Communications Committee - Nothing to report.

Community Meeting Reports --

Illegal Yard Sale - Fines have been issued to sellers at the yard. The sale is there most weekends. DB recognizes that combating this yard sale take a concerted, sustained effort. DB drafted a letter for nearby residents so that they have a tool to deal with it. DB will revise the letter and distribute it.

Unfinished Business--

Board Vacancies - CS noted that any applicants for Seats should be agendaized prior to the meeting, to allow for discussion. Kathy Flynn expressed interest in joining the board.

Neighborhood Watch - Nothing to report.

Pedestrian Death - No updates.

New Business

1. **SSNA Monthly Meeting Scheduling** -
2. **Door Knocking** - DZ walked the neighborhood and knocked doors; neighbors expressed issues with traffic.

Board Comments

DZ suggested making a video about the neighborhood to encourage participation.

Event Calendar

1. Jan 8 (Tue), 645pm – Sycamore Square Emergency Radio Net – FRS/GMRS Channel 7
2. Jan 9 (Wed), 7pm – GWNC Board Meeting, Wilshire Ebell Theater (S. Senigram, C. Starr)
3. Jan 10 (Thu) – Community Emergency Response Team Training (7 weeks) in E. Los Feliz
4. Jan 15 (Tue) – Final Day for GWNC Election Candidate Filing
5. Jan 17 (Thu) – Community-Police Advisory Board, 4849 Venice Blvd., Community Room
6. Jan 22 (Tue), 6:30pm – GWNC Land Use Committee Meeting, Marlborough School, D200
7. Jan 24 (Thu), 8pm – 2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, theycountwillyou.org/greater_wilshire_count
8. Jan 28 (Mon), 7pm – GWNC Transportation Committee with LADOT, Marlborough School, D200

Scheduling

SSNA March Meeting is scheduled for 7pm Monday March 4 at Numero Uno.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:21pm.